



520.42989X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. SHIROGANE et al.

Serial No.: 10/629,813

Filed: July 30, 2003

For: STORAGE SYSTEM

Group: 2145

Examiner: A. Choudhury

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 21, 2006

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application (with English translation) and copies of the foreign patent documents and non-patent references listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.


To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language version or translation of the foreign patent office report citing the documents. In addition,

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. 520.42989X00) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

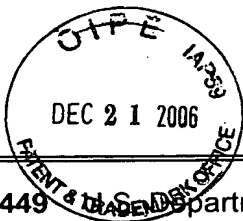
Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of
Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark
Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

520.42989X00

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APPLICANT

T. SHIROGANE et al.

FILING DATE

July 30, 2003

GROUP

2145

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ABSTRACT	
						YES	NO
	JP 2000-174731	6-2000	JAPAN			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.